

# DRAFT

**ITEM #2**

**P.C. MEETING: 09/19/02**

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

(Continued from 7/25/02)  
COMMUNITY: Countywide  
APPLICANT: Land Use Services Department  
FILE/INDEX: CWI-849N  
JCS #: L612  
PROPOSAL: An Ordinance to amend Title 8 Of the San Bernardino County Code  
relative to accessory wind energy systems.  
LOCATION: Countywide  
STAFF: Patrick Egle

Patrick Egle, Planner, presented the staff report, which is on file with the Advance Planning Division of the Land Use Services Department. Mr. Egle stated that this item was continued from a previous hearing in order for staff to address concerns. Mr. Egle discussed staff's analysis of and recommendation for the issue of concern regarding noise, height, color, parcels in urbanized areas and set backs. Mr. Egle presented the Commission with photographs of accessory wind energy systems in the County of San Bernardino.

There followed a discussion regarding setback in regards to the physical and legal property line, height limitations and regulations pertaining to blade length.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

The following people testified in favor of the proposal:

Bill Kraeg, Phelan Resident  
Richard Roddy, Yermo Resident  
Ted Schultz, Phelan Resident  
Breck Randolph, Phelan Resident  
Jeff Wright, Concerned Citizen  
Joe Guasti, Oak Hills Resident

Points of discussion were:

- Color of the generators.
- Suggested wording be included to require accessory wind systems, rotors and turbines match natural surroundings.
- California Energy Commission in charge of reliability and safety of the units.
- Height of the units and using the setbacks to govern the tower height.
- Benefit of clean power producing cleaner air.
- Temporary buy down program.
- Two property owners sharing one windmill and placing the windmill on the property line.

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- Compliance with applicable FAA requirements and State and Aeronautical Acts.
- Possible use of heating water through the towers.
- Allowing 100 feet on 2 ½ acres.
- Allowing towers heights half the length of your property.

There followed a discussion between staff and the Commission regarding the California Energy Commission's requirement for approval, allowing 100 foot towers on 2 ½ acres, variance for additional height being considered with rational justification, and eliminating the color change of the wind generators.

There being no one else in the audience to speak on this item, Chair Kwappenberg closed the public testimony.

## DISCUSSION

Commissioner Laning motioned to approve staff's recommendation with the inclusion of allowing 100 foot tower on 2 ½ acres in the desert and eliminate the requirement with regard to color in Section 2 (f).

Commissioner Dowling stated concern that the ordinance indicate that a non-approved CEC subsidized or rebateable windmill be eligible for installation in the County of San Bernardino if it was certified by the CEC.

Chair Kwappenberg suggested adding wording to state that the systems turbine must be approved or have been approved by the CEC.

Commissioner Laning concurred.

Commissioner Brown seconded the motion.

## COMMISSION ACTION

**RECOMMEND** that the Board of Supervisors **ADOPT** the proposed Development Code Amendments by ordinance as amended by the Planning Commission; **ADOPT** the Findings as contained in the Staff Report; **ADOPT** a Negative Declaration; **FILE** a Notice of Determination.

**MOTION:** Laning                      **SECOND:** Brown

**AYES:** Brown, Dowling, Ferguson, Kwappenberg, Laning

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None